

STUDY SAYS SOVIET GAINS IN MISSILES

It Will Surpass U.S. by 1970
Adm. Burke Group Warns

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A private report has concluded that if present trends continue, the Soviet Union will surpass this nation in numbers of intercontinental ballistic missiles by 1970 and "will have far exceeded the United States in deliverable megatonnage before that date."

The report also warns of the possibility of technological surprises, or "break throughs in weaponry that could negate the strongest defense posture."

The report, entitled "The Soviet Military Technological Challenge," was prepared by the Center for Strategic Studies of Georgetown University, a private group that makes studies of strategic military concepts and military posture. Adm. Arleigh A. Burke, retired chief of naval operations, is the head of the center.

Two Earlier Warnings

Advance copies of the report were released last week. It is the third report in recent months assessing the respective strategic capabilities of the United States and the Soviet Union. All have warned that the Soviet Union was overtaking the formerly commanding United States lead in nuclear delivery capabilities.

According to the latest report, the Soviet Union is expanding its stockpile of fissionable material "at the very time the United States is decreasing production."

Since 1965, the report says, the Soviet Union has been "deploying missiles at a faster rate than the United States."

The panel estimated that the Soviet Union had more than 400 ICBM's—250 to 300 of them possibly in hardened or protected sites—in addition to more than 700 medium and intermediate range ballistic missiles, 40 ballistic missile submarines, and 40 more with cruise-type missiles.

The Soviet long-range air armies now include about 210 heavy bombers and about 800 medium bombers, the report says. It adds that the Soviet is deploying a ballistic missile defense system and that the Russians's new surface-to-air missiles for use against piloted aircraft have an effective range of more than 50 miles.

The report also stresses the Soviet emphasis upon computers, information processing and cybernetics, and the Russian interest in lasers and other modern technological developments with major military implications.

Soviet Determination Cited

It concluded that Soviet leaders "are determined to match or surpass the United States, that "Soviet military/technological gains have influenced" the world balance of power, and that a "critical element" in United States military posture

will remain the degree of technological advantage that the United States maintains over the Soviet Union."

The panel that made the study was headed by Admiral Burke and included Harold M. Agnew of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory; Thomas Wolfe of the Rand Corporation; Bernard A. Schriever, retired Air Force general; Arthur G. Trudeau, retired Army lieutenant general; Robert D. Crane of the Hudson Institute; John Ford of American University, and members of the Center for Strategic Studies.

The other recent reports warning of Soviet gains were "The Changing Strategic Military Balance — U.S.A. vs. U.S.S.R." prepared for the House Armed Services Committee by the National Strategy Committee of the American Security Council, and a book just published, "Peace and the

Strategy Conflict," by William R. Kintner, retired Army colonel, who is deputy director of the Foreign Policy Research Institute at the University of Pennsylvania.

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